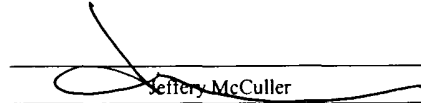


CERTIFICATE OF HAND DELIVERY

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. on September 8, 2003.


Jeffery McCuller

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Nobuyuki SEKIKAWA et al.

Serial No.: to be assigned (div. of 09/981,889)

Filing Date: September 8, 2003

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE
MANUFACTURING METHOD (AS
AMENDED)

Examiner: to be assigned

Group Art Unit: to be assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
2011 South Clark Place, Lobby
Crystal Plaza Two, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement and/or Office Action, directed to the parent application Serial Number 09/981,889, filed October 19, 2001, and, accordingly, copies are not included herewith. This protocol conforms with 37 CFR 1.98(d) and M.P.E.P. 609(A)(2). The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted with the application; accordingly no fee or separate requirements are required.


Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is to the best of my knowledge and is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 492322002210.

Dated: September 8, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Barry E. Bretschneider
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Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number 492322002210	Application Number Not Yet Assigned
	Applicant Nobuyuki SEKIKAWA et al.	
	Filing Date September 8, 2003	Group Art Unit Not Yet Assigned
	Date September 8, 2003	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	1.	08-1999	5,936,265	KOGA			
	2.	11-1997	5,686,754	CHOI et al.			
	3.	05-2002	2002-0057187	SANFILIPO et al.			
	4.	03-1999	5,883,402	OMURA et al.			
	5.	05-2001	6,229,180	YOSHIDA et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(including author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Title

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not the citation conforms with MPEP 609. Draw a line through the citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.